

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANGKO 23953 181220Z
ACTION SNM-05

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 AID-05 TRSE-00 ABF-01 /022 W
-----026236 181227Z /53

P 181214Z AUG 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9706

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STATE FOR S/NM; AID FOR SER/INC

EO 11652: NA
TAGS; SNAR, TH
SUBJECT: NARCOTICS HELICOPTERS

REF A) STATE 205109 B) BANGKOK 22663

1. APPRECIATE S/NM SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE OF REQUEST
MADE REF B. WE BELIEVE OPTION C SUGGESTED IN REF A
MAY BE POSSIBLE SOLUTION; HOWEVER, BASED ON OUR REVIEW
OF PROAG AND GOVERNING AID REGULATIONS, WE INTERPRET
THAT DECISION AUTHORITY RESTS WITH AID/W THROUGH
STATE-AID-PASA OR WITH S/NM.

2. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY APPROPRIATE FACTORS OUR
RATIONALE AND INTERPRETATION CURRENT REGULATIONS.

A. SUFFICIENT UNCOMMITTED FUNDS CURRENTLY EXIST IN
PIO/C 40091 UNDER WHICH CURRENT USAID HELIO-ORIENT
CONTRACT FOR HELICOPTER SPARE PARTS IS FUNDED. IT IS
OUR VIEW THAT THESE UNCOMMITTED FUNDS MIGHT BE USED TO
FINANCE TECHNICAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH HELIO-ORIENT.

B. WE FEEL IT WOULD BE EXCESSIVE STRETCHING CURRENT
PROCUREMENT AND PROJECT FINANCING GUIDELINES AND HANDBOOK
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INSTRUCTIONS FOR USAID TO AMEND CURRENT COMMODITY
CONTRACT TO SUPPLY TECHNICAL SERVICES.

C. ALSO CURRENT HANDBOOK REGS RESTRICT USAID FROM
AMENDING PROAG'S FUNDED BY FY-76 AND PRIOR YEARS APPRO-
PRIATIONS TO MOVE FUNDS BETWEEN COST COMPONENTS. IT IS
NOTED THIS RESTRICTION WAS LIFTED FOR FY-1977 AND THERE-

AFTER.

D. HOWEVER, USAID BELIEVES AUTHORITY EXISTS IN AID/W OR S/NM, UNDER LEGISLATION, TO AUTHORIZE EXCEPTION OR WAIVER OF ADMINISTRATIVE RULE ON TRANSFER OF FUNDS BETWEEN COST COMPONENTS WITHIN A PROJECT FINANCED WITH FUNDS APPROPRIATED PRIOR TO FY-1976.

E. THE AMOUNT OF TOTAL FUNDING WOULD NOT BE INCREASED. THE PURPOSE, OBJECTIVE, SCOPE, GOAL OF PROJECT IS NOT CHANGED. IT DOES NOT DIRECTLY INVOLVE FY-78 PROGRAM OR FUNDING. WE WOULD SIMPLY BE AMENDING FY-74 PROAG TO PROVIDE FOR MINOR ADJUSTMENT IN PROJECT BUDGET APPLICATION. THEREFORE, NO CONGRESSIONAL NOTIFICATION WOULD BE REQUIRED IN OUR VIEW.

3. IN LIGHT OF ABOVE RATIONALE REQUEST AID/W AND S

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AUTHORIZATION TO AMEND FY-1974 PROJECT AGREEMENT 493-0238-4024 TO TRANSFER REQUIRED FUNDS FROM COMMODITIES TO CONTRACT SERVICES THAT WILL ALLOW US TO CONTRACT WITH HELIO-ORIENT FOR SERVICES DESIRED.

4. ADVISE PRIORITY. ABRAMOWITZ

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